



Maryland HIV/AIDS Quarterly Update

First Quarter 2021

Data reported through March 31, 2021
 Center for HIV Surveillance, Epidemiology and Evaluation
 Infectious Disease Prevention and Health Services Bureau
 Prevention and Health Promotion Administration
 Maryland Department of Health
<https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CHSE/pages/Home.aspx>
 800-358-9001

Note. Interruptions in access to services due to the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a dramatic decline in HIV testing, diagnoses, and routine care in 2020. Caution should be exercised when examining newly reported diagnoses and interpreting trends.

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Section I – Technical Notes

HIV/AIDS Reporting

The Maryland HIV/AIDS Reporting Act of 2007 requires that people living with HIV be reported by name to the Maryland Department of Health. As per the reporting requirements of Health-General Articles 18-201.1, 18-202.1, and 18-205 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as specified in the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 10.18.02, physicians are required to report patients in their care with diagnoses of HIV or AIDS and infants born to mothers living with HIV, clinical and infection control practitioners in medical and correctional facilities are required to report patients in the care of the institution with diagnoses of HIV or AIDS, and laboratory directors are required to report all HIV diagnostic and HIV-related monitoring test results, including HIV negative test results.

Data Specifications

Surveillance is the ongoing systematic collection, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination of data. Data are only available for people that have been diagnosed with HIV by a health care provider, were residents of Maryland at the time of diagnosis or are current residents of Maryland as of September 30, 2020, are receiving medical care (often only at facilities in Maryland), and only includes information that has been reported to the health department.

Data presented were reported to the Maryland Department of Health through March 31, 2021. Reported new diagnoses and estimates of people living with diagnosed HIV are as of September 30, 2020.

This report presents data with a six-month reporting delay. This lag allows for time to report case and laboratory data and to complete investigations. Due to reporting delays, estimates by exposure category and mortality are preliminary.

Please note that data reported in the quarterly reports may not match data reported in the annual epidemiological profiles due to differences in reporting periods.

Please read all table titles and footnotes carefully to ensure a complete understanding of the displayed data.

New HIV Infections

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), using national surveillance data, estimates that the number of people living with undiagnosed HIV infection, among people living with HIV, is 13.8 percent in the United States.¹ Applying the same estimation method to Maryland surveillance data, the estimated number of people living with undiagnosed HIV infection in Maryland is 10.8 percent in 2018.

AIDS Diagnoses

CD4+ T-lymphocyte tests are measures of a person's immune system function. An adult living with diagnosed HIV is considered to have AIDS if they have less than 200 CD4+ cells per microliter of blood or if the percent of T-Lymphocyte cells that are CD4+ is less than 14 percent.

Mortality

People are assumed to be alive unless reported as deceased to the Maryland Department of Health. Caution should be exercised when interpreting mortality estimates for recent years due to delays in reporting.

Engagement in HIV Care

Treatment recommendations are that a person in HIV medical care should have their CD4 and viral load levels measured regularly, at least once per year. The presence of these lab tests is used as an indicator that someone has been "linked to care" after diagnosis or is "retained in care."

Viral Suppression

Viral load tests are measures of the amount of HIV in a person's body. The goal of HIV treatment is to have a low number of copies of virus per milliliter of blood, below what the test can measure, which is called an undetectable level. Low levels of viral load, such as less than 200 copies per milliliter of blood, is known as viral suppression. Estimates of viral suppression among people living with diagnosed HIV are inclusive of people diagnosed in the specified year; therefore, they may not have had sufficient time to engage in HIV care and/or achieve viral suppression.

¹Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Estimated HIV incidence and prevalence in the United States, 2014–2018. HIV Surveillance Supplemental Report 2020;25(No. 1). <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/library/reports/hiv-surveillance.html>. Published May 2020. Accessed May 2020.

Geographic Distribution

Residence at diagnosis is used exclusively to describe new HIV and AIDS diagnoses. Estimates describing the number of people living with diagnosed HIV use current residence. Current residence estimates are restricted to people for which there is a case report form or laboratory test reported since January 1, 2009. Restricting address data to recent years presents the most accurate data available and helps to account for people that may have moved out of state whose data would no longer be reported in Maryland. However, current residence data excludes people that may still be residents of Maryland but have not received any HIV care since prior to 2009. In addition, residence is dynamic and people living with diagnosed HIV may have resided at multiple addresses that cannot all be represented in single time point estimates.

In the quarterly reports, not all data has been geocoded and therefore is preliminary. Geocoding is the process of assigning geographic identifiers to map features and data records. Addresses are standard data elements required by law and submitted as part of reporting requirements; however, the information may be incomplete which then requires a geocoding process to improve the quality of data. This process is fully completed on the end-of-the-year data set.

Residents of Correctional Facilities

People living with diagnosed HIV who were reported to be residing in a state or federal prison will be described

for Maryland only. For surveillance purposes, pre- or post-incarceration residential addresses are used for people living with diagnosed HIV who were incarcerated in local jails and detention centers.

Sources of Data

Information on HIV and AIDS diagnoses, including residence, vital status, and CD4 and HIV viral load test results are from the Maryland Department of Health's Enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS), as of March 31, 2021.

Tabulation of Column Totals

Numbers in figures, tables and generally in the text have been rounded. Discrepancies in tables between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

Data Suppression

In order to protect the confidentiality of people living with diagnosed HIV, data are suppressed in the following instances:

- Data describing a demographic group or geographic area (e.g. ZIP code) with a population less than 1,000 people.
- All clinical/laboratory information if it is describing less than five people.
- If any cell is suppressed, additional cells are also suppressed as necessary to prevent back calculation of the suppressed cell(s).

Glossary of Terms

CD4 Result Distribution (<200, 200-349, 350-499, 500+): Percent of people living with diagnosed HIV with a CD4 test distributed by their CD4 count results (cells per microliter).

CD4 With Test: Number and percent of total people aged 13+ living with diagnosed HIV with a recent CD4 test result.

Corrections: Residence in a state or federal prison. Does not include local jails and detention centers.

Current Residence: Jurisdiction of residence from the most recent report since January 1, 2009.

First CD4 Test Result Median Count: Median CD4 count (cells per microliter) of the first CD4 test result reported within 12 months following initial HIV diagnosis.

First CD4 Test Result Percent with Test: Percent of reported HIV diagnoses among people aged 13+ with the first CD4 test result reported within 12 months following the initial HIV diagnosis.

Jurisdiction of Current Residence: Jurisdiction of residence from the most recent report since January 1, 2009.

Jurisdiction of Residence: Jurisdiction of residence at diagnosis or current residence.

Jurisdiction of Residence at AIDS Diagnosis: Jurisdiction of residence at time of initial AIDS diagnosis.

Jurisdiction of Residence at Diagnosis: Jurisdiction of residence at the later time of initial HIV diagnosis or time of initial AIDS diagnosis.

Jurisdiction of Residence at HIV Diagnosis: Jurisdiction of residence at time of initial HIV diagnosis.

Late HIV Diagnosis: Percent of adult/adolescent reported HIV diagnoses with an initial AIDS diagnosis less than or equal to 3 months after their initial HIV diagnosis.

Linked to Care: Percent of adult/adolescent reported HIV diagnoses with a reported CD4 or viral load test performed less than or equal to 1 month or 3 months after their initial HIV diagnosis.

People Aged 13+ Living with Diagnosed HIV: Reported HIV diagnoses, age 13 years or older as of September 30, 2020 and not reported to have died as of March 31, 2021.

People Living with Diagnosed HIV: Reported HIV diagnoses not reported to have died as of March 31, 2021.

Median Count: Median CD4 count (cells per microliter), among total people aged 13+ living with diagnosed HIV, of the most recent CD4 test result measured in the specified year.

Median Unsuppressed: Median unsuppressed viral load (copies per milliliter) among people aged 13+ living with diagnosed HIV of the most recent viral load test result measured in the specified year of 200 copies per milliliter or greater.

Percent Change: The percent change in number of total people aged 13+ living with diagnosed HIV from residence at diagnosis to current residence.

Percent Late HIV Diagnosis: Percent of adult/adolescent reported AIDS diagnoses with an initial HIV diagnosis less than or equal to 3 months prior to their initial AIDS diagnosis.

Percent Suppressed: Percent of total people aged 13+ living with diagnosed HIV with a recent viral load test result measured in the specified year of less than 200 copies per milliliter.

Population: Population estimate for July 1, 2019.

Population Age 13+: Population age 13 years or older, estimate for July 1, 2019.

Rate: Number of people living with diagnosed HIV divided by the population and multiplied by 100,000.

Ratio (1 in X): Number of people for every 1 person living with diagnosed HIV in the population, or 1 person living with diagnosed HIV in every X number of people.

Recent CD4 Test Result: The most recent CD4 test result measured in the specified year.

Recent Viral Load Test Result: The most recent viral load test result measured in the specified year.

Reported AIDS Diagnoses Among People Aged 13+: Reported HIV diagnoses, age 13 years or older at HIV diagnosis, with an initial AIDS diagnosis during the specified year.

Reported HIV Diagnoses Among People Aged 13+: Reported HIV diagnoses, age 13 years or older at HIV diagnosis, with an initial HIV diagnosis during the specified year.

Residence at Diagnosis: Jurisdiction of residence at later time of initial HIV diagnosis or initial AIDS diagnosis.

Total People Aged 13+ Living with Diagnosed HIV: Reported HIV diagnoses, age 13 years or older as of September 30, 2020 not reported to have died as of March 31, 2021.

Viral Load With Test: Number and percent of total people aged 13+ living with diagnosed HIV with a recent viral load test result.

Maryland Department of Health Non-Discrimination Statement

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) complies with applicable Federal civil right laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability in its health programs and activities.

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Section II – Reported HIV Diagnoses, Among People Aged 13+, by Jurisdiction

Table 1 – Reported HIV Diagnoses and Reported AIDS Diagnoses, Among People Aged 13+ During October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020, by Jurisdiction of Residence at Diagnosis, Reported through March 31, 2021

Jurisdiction of Residence at Diagnosis	Population Age 13+	Reported HIV Diagnoses Among People Aged 13+			Reported AIDS Diagnoses Among People Aged 13+		
		No.	% of Total	Rate	No.	% of Total	Rate
Allegany	61,764	3	0.4%	4.9	2	0.5%	3.2
Anne Arundel	485,680	39	5.1%	8.0	20	4.9%	4.1
Baltimore City	504,269	180	23.4%	35.7	105	25.7%	20.8
Baltimore	698,716	105	13.6%	15.0	46	11.3%	6.6
Calvert	77,905	5	0.6%	6.4	2	0.5%	2.6
Caroline	27,787	0	0.0%	0.0	0	0.0%	0.0
Carroll	143,123	1	0.1%	0.7	4	1.0%	2.8
Cecil	86,690	5	0.6%	5.8	1	0.2%	1.2
Charles	136,026	17	2.2%	12.5	6	1.5%	4.4
Dorchester	27,165	1	0.1%	3.7	0	0.0%	0.0
Frederick	217,096	15	1.9%	6.9	6	1.5%	2.8
Garrett	25,324	0	0.0%	0.0	0	0.0%	0.0
Harford	215,720	11	1.4%	5.1	10	2.5%	4.6
Howard	270,649	17	2.2%	6.3	12	2.9%	4.4
Kent	17,295	3	0.4%	17.3	2	0.5%	11.6
Montgomery	877,406	88	11.4%	10.0	49	12.0%	5.6
Prince George's	761,035	247	32.1%	32.5	121	29.7%	15.9
Queen Anne's	42,995	2	0.3%	4.7	2	0.5%	4.7
Saint Mary's	94,126	3	0.4%	3.2	3	0.7%	3.2
Somerset	22,450	0	0.0%	0.0	1	0.2%	4.5
Talbot	32,407	1	0.1%	3.1	0	0.0%	0.0
Washington	127,813	8	1.0%	6.3	7	1.7%	5.5
Wicomico	87,334	17	2.2%	19.5	9	2.2%	10.3
Worcester	46,024	1	0.1%	2.2	0	0.0%	0.0
Corrections	--	1	0.1%	--	0	0.0%	--
Total	5,086,800	770	100.0%	15.4	408	100.0%	8.3

Table 2 – Reported HIV Diagnoses, Among People Aged 13+ During October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020, Linked to Care, Late Diagnosis, First CD4 Test Result, and Mean Years from HIV Diagnosis by Jurisdiction of Residence at Diagnosis, Reported through March 31, 2021

Jurisdiction of Residence at HIV Diagnosis	Reported HIV Diagnoses Among People Aged 13+					
	No.	Linked to Care		% Late HIV Diagnoses	First CD4 Test Result	
		% 1 mo.	% 3 mo.		% with Test	Median Count
Allegany	3	***	***	***	***	***
Anne Arundel	39	77.1%	85.7%	22.9%	94.3%	480
Baltimore City	180	86.1%	92.5%	13.3%	91.3%	460
Baltimore	105	87.5%	94.8%	15.6%	92.7%	442
Calvert	5	100.0%	100.0%	***	100.0%	323
Caroline	0	--	--	--	--	--
Carroll	1	***	***	***	***	***
Cecil	5	100.0%	100.0%	***	100.0%	520
Charles	17	90.0%	95.0%	***	95.0%	373
Dorchester	1	***	***	***	***	***
Frederick	15	93.3%	100.0%	***	100.0%	246
Garrett	0	--	--	--	--	--
Harford	11	90.9%	90.9%	54.5%	90.9%	124
Howard	17	94.1%	94.1%	***	94.1%	460
Kent	3	***	***	***	***	***
Montgomery	88	88.5%	92.0%	29.9%	93.1%	363
Prince George's	247	91.0%	92.8%	30.6%	92.3%	301
Queen Anne's	2	***	***	***	***	***
Saint Mary's	3	***	***	***	***	***
Somerset	0	--	--	--	--	--
Talbot	1	***	***	***	***	***
Washington	8	88.9%	88.9%	55.6%	100.0%	198
Wicomico	17	92.9%	100.0%	***	92.9%	333
Worcester	1	***	***	***	***	***
Corrections	1	***	***	***	***	***
Total	770	88.4%	93.0%	23.7%	92.8%	389

*** Data withheld due to low population counts and/or small numbers

Table 3 – People Aged 13+ Living with Diagnosed HIV, Alive on September 30, 2020, by Jurisdiction of Residence at Diagnosis and Current Residence, Reported through March 31, 2021

Jurisdiction of Residence	Population Age 13+	Total People Aged 13+ Living with Diagnosed HIV								% Change
		Residence at Diagnosis				Current Residence				
		No.	% of Total	Rate	Ratio (1 in X)	No.	% of Total	Rate	Ratio (1 in X)	
Allegany	61,764	90	0.3%	145.7	686	100	0.3%	161.9	618	11.1%
Anne Arundel	485,680	1,319	4.0%	271.6	368	1,359	4.3%	279.8	357	3.0%
Baltimore City	504,269	11,998	36.4%	2,379.3	42	10,690	33.9%	2,119.9	47	-10.9%
Baltimore	698,716	3,288	10.0%	470.6	213	3,537	11.2%	506.2	198	7.6%
Calvert	77,905	115	0.3%	147.6	677	133	0.4%	170.7	586	15.7%
Caroline	27,787	67	0.2%	241.1	415	62	0.2%	223.1	448	-7.5%
Carroll	143,123	151	0.5%	105.5	948	166	0.5%	116.0	862	9.9%
Cecil	86,690	125	0.4%	144.2	694	150	0.5%	173.0	578	20.0%
Charles	136,026	505	1.5%	371.3	269	642	2.0%	472.0	212	27.1%
Dorchester	27,165	126	0.4%	463.8	216	145	0.5%	533.8	187	15.1%
Frederick	217,096	372	1.1%	171.4	584	470	1.5%	216.5	462	26.3%
Garrett	25,324	9	0.0%	35.5	2,814	17	0.1%	67.1	1,490	88.9%
Harford	215,720	470	1.4%	217.9	459	522	1.7%	242.0	413	11.1%
Howard	270,649	616	1.9%	227.6	439	684	2.2%	252.7	396	11.0%
Kent	17,295	41	0.1%	237.1	422	53	0.2%	306.5	326	29.3%
Montgomery	877,406	4,152	12.6%	473.2	211	3,599	11.4%	410.2	244	-13.3%
Prince George's	761,035	7,884	23.9%	1,036.0	97	7,928	25.1%	1,041.7	96	0.6%
Queen Anne's	42,995	56	0.2%	130.2	768	59	0.2%	137.2	729	5.4%
Saint Mary's	94,126	144	0.4%	153.0	654	156	0.5%	165.7	603	8.3%
Somerset	22,450	72	0.2%	320.7	312	79	0.3%	351.9	284	9.7%
Talbot	32,407	68	0.2%	209.8	477	79	0.3%	243.8	410	16.2%
Washington	127,813	315	1.0%	246.5	406	356	1.1%	278.5	359	13.0%
Wicomico	87,334	260	0.8%	297.7	336	273	0.9%	312.6	320	5.0%
Worcester	46,024	76	0.2%	165.1	606	68	0.2%	147.7	677	-10.5%
Corrections	--	687	2.1%	--	--	233	0.7%	--	--	--
Total	5,086,800	33,006	100.0%	648.9	154	31,560	100.0%	620.4	161	-4.4%

Table 4 – CD4 Test Results During October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020 for People Aged 13+ Living with Diagnosed HIV, Alive on September 30, 2020, by Jurisdiction of Current Residence, Reported through March 31, 2021

Jurisdiction of Current Residence	Total People Aged 13+ Living with Diagnosed HIV								
	No.	Recent CD4 Test Result				<200	200-349	350-499	500+
		No. with Test	% with Test	Median Count					
Allegany	100	90	90.0%	653	4.4%	6.7%	23.3%	65.6%	
Anne Arundel	1,359	972	71.5%	640	6.7%	11.6%	15.4%	66.3%	
Baltimore City	10,690	7,525	70.4%	605	8.9%	12.5%	16.6%	62.0%	
Baltimore	3,537	2,444	69.1%	644	5.5%	12.1%	14.8%	67.6%	
Calvert	133	109	82.0%	662	8.3%	11.9%	10.1%	69.7%	
Caroline	62	53	85.5%	707	1.9%	3.8%	13.2%	81.1%	
Carroll	166	125	75.3%	686	8.0%	10.4%	10.4%	71.2%	
Cecil	150	97	64.7%	627	8.2%	7.2%	21.6%	62.9%	
Charles	642	499	77.7%	676	6.8%	10.6%	13.4%	69.1%	
Dorchester	145	107	73.8%	645	7.5%	9.3%	18.7%	64.5%	
Frederick	470	355	75.5%	633	5.4%	8.7%	15.2%	70.7%	
Garrett	17	12	70.6%	840	8.3%	0.0%	25.0%	66.7%	
Harford	522	353	67.6%	650	7.6%	11.6%	13.6%	67.1%	
Howard	684	506	74.0%	669	7.3%	8.7%	14.0%	70.0%	
Kent	53	45	84.9%	610	6.7%	13.3%	13.3%	66.7%	
Montgomery	3,599	2,512	69.8%	603	6.2%	11.4%	17.8%	64.6%	
Prince George's	7,928	5,926	74.7%	626	6.7%	11.5%	15.6%	66.2%	
Queen Anne's	59	45	76.3%	637	13.3%	11.1%	13.3%	62.2%	
Saint Mary's	156	120	76.9%	592	10.8%	12.5%	20.0%	56.7%	
Somerset	79	63	79.7%	552	6.3%	11.1%	19.0%	63.5%	
Talbot	79	66	83.5%	513	10.6%	18.2%	18.2%	53.0%	
Washington	356	265	74.4%	709	6.0%	9.1%	13.2%	71.7%	
Wicomico	273	207	75.8%	585	10.1%	13.0%	13.5%	63.3%	
Worcester	68	54	79.4%	609	7.4%	3.7%	25.9%	63.0%	
Corrections	233	189	81.1%	613	4.8%	11.6%	17.5%	66.1%	
Total	31,561	22,740	72.1%	622	7.3%	11.7%	16.0%	65.0%	

Table 5 – Viral Load Test Results During October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020 for People Aged 13+ Living with Diagnosed HIV, Alive on September 30, 2020, by Jurisdiction of Current Residence, Reported through March 31, 2021

Jurisdiction of Current Residence	Total People Aged 13+ Living with Diagnosed HIV				
	No.	Recent Viral Load Test Result			Median Unsuppressed
		No. with Test	% with Test	% Suppressed	
Allegany	100	89	89.0%	88.8%	47,600
Anne Arundel	1,359	1,016	74.8%	89.9%	9,910
Baltimore City	10,690	8,252	77.2%	87.2%	10,394
Baltimore	3,537	2,630	74.4%	91.3%	6,725
Calvert	133	109	82.0%	95.4%	2,990
Caroline	62	52	83.9%	92.3%	32,385
Carroll	166	129	77.7%	93.0%	42,600
Cecil	150	100	66.7%	83.0%	7,400
Charles	642	495	77.1%	89.9%	11,050
Dorchester	145	110	75.9%	91.8%	8,930
Frederick	470	358	76.2%	91.6%	5,830
Garrett	17	12	70.6%	91.7%	275
Harford	522	378	72.4%	90.5%	9,410
Howard	684	521	76.2%	88.7%	4,520
Kent	53	43	81.1%	93.0%	4,060
Montgomery	3,599	2,509	69.7%	92.4%	14,550
Prince George's	7,928	5,967	75.3%	90.2%	7,120
Queen Anne's	59	48	81.4%	89.6%	36,270
Saint Mary's	156	121	77.6%	81.8%	15,995
Somerset	79	62	78.5%	90.3%	18,560
Talbot	79	66	83.5%	93.9%	58,920
Washington	356	263	73.9%	90.9%	3,765
Wicomico	273	217	79.5%	86.6%	13,000
Worcester	68	55	80.9%	96.4%	6,525
Corrections	233	190	81.5%	90.5%	3,295
Total	31,561	23,793	75.4%	89.5%	9,349